

REMARKS

Added independent Claim 23 is directed to the embodiment of the presently cancelled Claim 22 the allowability of which has been indicated.

The deletions of the term "with that is" from Claims 1, 15, 13 and 16 are believed to address and overcome the objection relative to these claims. The introduction of the term "positive number" in the several claims excludes "zero" from the scope of the claimed "a". Support is found in the working examples where the catalyst entailed a positive value for "L".

Claims 1-10 and 13-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Kawasaki et al (U.S. Patent 3,755,275). The Examiner contends that the reference examples 10, 11 and 12 are within the scope of the amended claims.

Kawasaki disclosed  $\text{VOCl}_3$ . Accordingly, the oxygen atom may only denote the presently recited "L" yet an oxygen atom is not a 2-, 3- or 4- chelating ligand. Therefore the disclosed  $\text{VOCl}_3$  (and for that matter any vanadium complex which introduces an oxygen as ligand L or Q) does not satisfy the formula  $\text{ML}_a\text{Q}_b$ . The rejection alleging anticipation is clearly erroneous and its retraction is earnestly solicited.

Claims 1-11 and 13-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Kuntz et al (U.S. Patent 4,175,017). The Examiner points to Example 1 as showing relevant catalyzed copolymerization and to example 2 where the copolymer is used to produce molded forms.

Kuntz discloses a complex  $[\text{V}(\text{acac})_3]$  which does not describe the presently claimed  $\text{ML}_a\text{Q}_b$  because either L or Q is missing.

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The rejection alleging anticipation by Kuntz is clearly erroneous and its withdrawal is respectfully urged.

The indication that the embodiment of Claim 22 represents allowable subject matter is acknowledged with appreciation. Newly added independent Claim 23 is directed to the presently cancelled Claim 22.

Believing the above represent a complete response to the Office Action and that the application is in condition for allowance, Applicants request the earliest issuance of an indication to this effect.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Aron Preis  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 29,426

Bayer Polymers LLC  
100 Bayer Road  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205-9741  
(412) 777-3814  
FACSIMILE PHONE NUMBER:  
(412) 777-3902

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